GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:630
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2017
Foreign Trade
Jaunpuria Shri Sukhbir Singh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has fixed norms for import of toys/equipments and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government proposes to carry out an amendment in Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act to impose quantitative restriction on goods imported from China and impose penalty on traders violating the said law;
(c) if so, the details thereof along with its current status;
(d) whether the profit earned from foreign trade has registered an increase during the past few years; and
(e) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to increase India"s foreign trade?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a): Import of Toys is "free" subject to prescribed standards. Import of Toys (all items under EXIM Codes 9503 0010, 9503 0020, 9503 0030 and 9503 0090) are permitted freely when accompanied by the following two types of certificates:
(i) A certificate that the toys being imported conform to the standards prescribed in
(a) ASTM F963 or
(b) ISO 8124 (Parts I-III) or
(c) IS 9873 [Parts I-III] or
(d) EN 71;
and
(ii) A Certificate of Conformance from the manufacturer that representative sample of the toys being imported have been tested by an independent laboratory which is accredited under International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) and found to meet the specifications indicated in (i) above. The certificate would also link the toys in the consignment to the period of manufacture indicated in the Certificate of Conformity.

Further, the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) formulates standards applicable to domestic products and also mandates the use of Standard Marks under a license which mutadis mutandis also apply to imported goods. Products have been notified under compulsory certification / registration with one of the objectives of checking influx of substandard products into Indian markets. Presently, there are 108 products covered under Compulsory Product Certification Scheme of BIS and 30 Electronic and IT Goods under Compulsory Registration Scheme of BIS. Till now, 204 licences have been issued to Chinese manufacturers for Steel products, Electrical products, Tyres &Tubes etc. as per Product Certification Scheme of BIS. Also, 4636 manufacturers have been granted registrations for Electronic and IT Goods as per Compulsory Registration Scheme of BIS

(b) to (c) : No such proposal is under consideration.
(d): The Government does not maintain data on profit and loss incurred in trade by private concerns.
(e): To boost India's exports, Foreign Trade Policy provides for duty neutralization schemes like Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme (duty free imports of capital goods are allowed linked with export obligations) and Advance Authorisation Scheme (duty free imports of raw materials, components, spares and consumables are allowed subject to export obligations within a fixed time period). Moreover, there are incentive schemes like the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) (incentivizes export of merchandise which are produced/manufactured in India) and Services Exports from India Scheme (SEIS) that incentivizes service exports.
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